

## Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1

### Office of Library Construction Findings

Project Name [Number]	<b>Ripon Branch Library 1056</b>	Current Square Footage	<b>3,840</b>
Applicant	<b>Ripon, City of</b>	Project Square Footage	<b>13,500</b>
Operating Library Jurisdiction	<b>Stockton-San Joaquin County Public Library</b>	Service Area Population:	<b>10,146</b>
Project Type	<b>New Library</b>		
Project Priority	<b>1st</b>	Anticipated Construction Start Date:	<b>8/1/2004</b>
Joint Use Type	<b>Joint Venture</b>		
Multipurpose?	<b>NO</b>	Total Project Amount	<b>\$3,778,165</b>
Leased Site:	<b>NO</b>	State Grant Amount	<b>\$2,425,420</b>

#### **Bond Act Factors** [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	<b>Rated</b>	<b>Other</b>
Needs of urban and rural areas:		<b>[see map]</b>
Population growth:		<b>475%</b>
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		<b>Yes</b>
Age and condition of existing library:	<b>Poor Condition ( = Very Good )</b>	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	<b>Acceptable</b>	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:	<b>Acceptable</b>	
Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:	<b>Very Good</b>	
<b>Overall Rating:</b>		<b>Acceptable</b>

#### **Summary of Review Panel Comments**

**Population Growth** 475.3%

**Age and Condition** The library was built in 1948 and was renovated in 1974. Major deficiencies of the existing library: inadequate space for all services and functions; non-compliance with ADA codes; lack of meeting and program space; inappropriate spatial relationships and lack of flexibility; inadequate acoustical control; inefficient mechanical systems; and inadequate telecommunications infrastructure.

**Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs** The "major Library Planning document for facility needs" is a 1987 branch library study that has not been updated. The needs assessment process was updated in 2000-2001 and provided adequate methods for obtaining resident input, including focus groups, a community survey, and interviews. The needs of K-12 students were addressed during the needs assessment via a focus group comprised of students and teachers.

The plan of service addresses the needs assessment findings only peripherally. Goals and objectives are provided but are inconsistent in their level of detail -- some are specific and some are vague. Service indicators are woven into the objectives and are not consistently provided for all services. Technology is mentioned superficially. The homework center, which is the joint venture service component, is not mentioned in the plan of service. Services for K-12 students are addressed in general terms.

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The building program: There is not a clear thread from the needs assessment through the plan of service and into the building program -- the documents lack continuity. However, the building program provides spaces that are adequate for the proposed project. The homework center appears to be inadequate according to the description of services in the joint use agreement.

The conceptual plans follow the building program, which reflects the needs assessment. The plan of service did not address identified needs, especially technology. They do show future expansion, however. Non-assignable SF is not noted on plans. Sections do not show library area designations.

Joint Use Agreement: Homework Center (Grades 3-12) The agreement does not represent a partnership in which both parties share responsibility. The school district's primary contribution is encouraging use of the homework center and possibly providing unspecified materials funding "as the budget allows." The agreement provides for a quarterly review of the services. Homework assistance will be provided by volunteers who will be trained by the library staff.

**Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology** Technology is briefly addressed in the planning documents. The needs assessment document states that "Uncertainty regarding community population growth and the extent to which the Library will incorporate electronic publishing into its collections suggest that a phased approach to design and construction project is appropriate for Ripon." This statement leads the reader to believe that the applicant is unaware of the importance and impact of electronic resources for today's public library. Technology is not mentioned in the plan of service and is not mentioned in the building program in all of the spaces that will require it (e.g., circulation desk, staff work areas, group study rooms, etc.). The proposed library will be connected to the Stockton-San Joaquin County Library WAN, providing the clientele with access to electronic resources in the library and from their homes/offices.

**Appropriateness of Proposed Site** The proposed site is located in the geographic center of the service area, with the city hall, police station, senior residential home, the town's shopping center, and the chamber of commerce in close proximity. It is located at the major cross-roads for the community. Currently unserved by public transit because of its rural nature, the site will be within 1/4 mile of a planned public transit stop, to be in place by 2004. The site is accessible by dial-a-ride, automobile, bicycle, and by foot. The site provides for the future expansion of both the library and parking. There are no site conditions that limit the design solution for the project.

**Financial Capacity** The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library. Funding for furnishings and equipment appears to be inadequate based on current average costs.